

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

HERGER, Wally (Republican)
Representative, 2nd District, California
Elected 1986 to 100th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Sutter County, California - 20 May 1945
Home: Marysville, California
Marital status: Married (Pamela) - 9 children (1 deceased)
Religion: Mormon
Education: American River Community College, A.A. 1967; attended California State U. 1968-69
Military: None
Profession: Rancher, gas company president, State assemblyman
Political: California Assembly, 1981-86. Succeeded Rep Gene Chappie (R), who retired. Reelected in 2000 with 66% of the vote and in 2002 with 66%.

Rep Herger, a friendly, low-key conservative, was elected vice president of the freshman GOP class of the 100th Congress. In the 100th and 101st Congresses, was involved in efforts to get the Air Force to reverse its proposal to phase out the SR-71 strategic reconnaissance program at Beale AFB in his district. (Defense News, 6/26/89, p.31) In the 102nd Congress, voted to grant the President's request to use force in the Persian Gulf. Assigned to the Ways & Means Cmte on 10Dec92. Appointed to Budget Cmte in the 103d Congress and left both Agriculture and Merchant Marine Cmtes. Said that Mather AFB's 940th Air Refueling Group should avail itself of facilities at Beale AFB vice moving to McClellan AFB (Sacramento Bee, 8Jan93, p.B-1). Sent a letter to the SecDef urging that Beale AFB vice Fairchild AFB be the site for the Special Ops Forces in the western U.S. (Sacramento Bee, 15Jul94, p.B1).

In the 104th Congress, proposed a successful amdt to the FY96 Milcon appropriations deleting funds for an Army museum. Opposed sending U.S. troops to Bosnia. In the 105th Congress, introduced a bill to preserve the defense industrial base by reducing unfair tax exemptions for certain overseas arms sales. Condemned the alleged "sale" of burial plots at Arlington National Cemetery to non-veteran political contributors and called for an investigation. (Press Release, 19Nov97) Sponsored legislation in the 105th Congress to require specific authorization for military attacks against Iraq, to require that any missile defense system developed be effective beyond the 48 contiguous States, to guarantee military voting rights in all Federal, State, and local elections, to support use of DoD personnel in border protection and immigration patrols, and to support gender segregated basic military training.

In the 106th Congress, welcomed the passage of H.R. 4, national missile defense. Asserted "we must defend ourselves from the very real threat of missile attack." Drew attention to the fact that 73 percent of Americans are unaware that the US lacks the capability to defend against even a single incoming ballistic missile.

In the 107th Congress, supported HR 959, which would allow veterans to purchase tax exempt bonds to help purchase a home. Critical of environmental regulations, stating "we're literally wasting millions of dollars in terms of environmental hoops we're jumping through." Pushed for the Global Hawk surveillance planes to be stationed at Beale AFB.

AF Bases: Beale AFB

COMMITTEES

WAYS & MEANS- Subcm on Human Resources-Chmn; Trade

